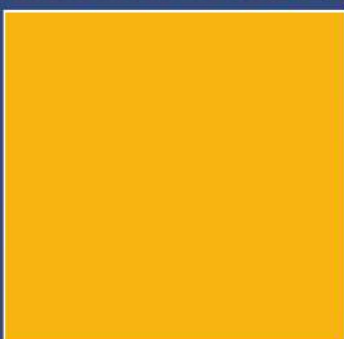


ANNUAL REPORT

CITY OF MERIDIAN

2016



WWW.MERIDIANCITY.ORG



MISSION

We love Meridian; it's our town and our mission is to cultivate a vibrant community by delivering superior service through committed, equipped employees dedicated to the stewardship of our community's resources.

VISION

By 2035, Meridian will be the West's premier community in which to live, work and raise a family.

VALUES

At the City of Meridian, we **CARE**. That means:

- Providing the best **CUSTOMER SERVICE** to our community, colleagues, and partners by listening and responding in a timely, friendly, professional, and solution-oriented manner.
- Exemplifying **ACCOUNTABILITY** by understanding our role in the organization, knowing our jobs, and accepting that each of us is responsible for our own work, choices, and actions. Acting as stewards of the community's resources, our environment, and our relationships.
- Showing **RESPECT** by being trustworthy and courteous. We honor, accept, and include people with diverse opinions and backgrounds.
- Demonstrating continual **EXCELLENCE** through professionalism, going beyond the parameters of our job while being creative, innovative, flexible, and adaptable to multiple needs.

M

ESSAGE FROM MAYOR TAMMY



The Idaho Air National Guard's 124th Fighter Wing named an A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft the "Pride of Meridian" - unveiling it in May, 2015

As I reflect on 2015, I can't help but beam with pride over the work of our City employees and our community. Meridian is not only the number one place to live in America, it's the number one place to serve as Mayor! From new community events such as "Do The Right" and the Youth Farmers Market, to added amenities such as the Storey Bark Park and the Public Safety Training Center, we packed a lot of excitement into 2015! This annual report includes the highlights from each of our City departments.

One highlight from behind the scenes is the creation and adoption of the City's Strategic Plan for the next four years. The document endeavors to set, organize, and put a plan into action to accomplish the City's objectives. The strategic plan focuses on five main areas: Strategic Growth; Economic Vibrancy; Responsive Government; Safe, Healthy and Secure; and Arts, Culture and Recreation.

Strategic Growth focuses on good growth that fuels the City, making sure it is family focused, properly planned, financially viable and diverse.

to fulfill the diverse cultural and recreational needs of our residents. As we carry our City into the future, the Strategic Plan will be our

THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUSES ON FIVE MAIN AREAS: STRATEGIC GROWTH, ECONOMIC VIBRANCY, RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT, SAFE, HEALTHY AND SECURE AND ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION.

Economic Vibrancy is a commitment to expand family-wage jobs and promote the growth of existing organizations.

Responsive Government is our pledge to be service driven, approachable and responsive. **Safe, Healthy and Secure** is our goal to invest in activities and services that enhance public safety and community health. And finally our focus on **Arts, Culture and Recreation** remains important in keeping our community a premier place to live. We will invest our time in services, facilities, programs, and partnerships

guide. The 2015 City of Meridian Annual Report highlights some additions to our City over the past year and how that growth relates to our five areas of focus.

Looking forward, we will continue **Building Meridian Together** according to this guideline, and keep our community the number one place to live; a destination for families and businesses.

CITY COUNCIL

The Meridian City Council experienced change in 2015. Veteran City Councilmen David Zaremba and Charlie Rountree completed their terms on the council and chose not to run again for office.

"It's a bittersweet time as we bid farewell to Charlie and David, two dedicated public servants with a vast knowledge of our community. It is with sadness we close out this era of which have been an intricate part, but look forward to what the future holds," said Mayor Tammy de Weerd.

"IT WAS WITH SADNESS WE CLOSE OUT THIS ERA OF WHICH THEY (CHARLIE AND DAVID) HAVE BEEN AN INTRICATE PART, BUT I LOOK FORWARD TO WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS."

-MAYOR TAMMY

Anne Little Roberts and Ty Palmer are the newest members on the City Council. Palmer was sworn into office on January 5, 2016 and Little Roberts took the oath of office on January 12, 2016.

Mayor Tammy was re-elected to a fourth term at the helm of the City and Genesis Milam was re-elected to a second term on the council.

"I'm thankful to our community for once again putting their trust in me as Mayor. I'm thrilled to welcome Anne and Ty, who face a large learning curve but have already rolled up their sleeves for Meridian. I'm also excited to be able to continue working with Genesis, who was re-elected to Seat 5 and council members Keith Bird, Joe Borton and Luke Cavener. All share a passion for our community and a focus on keeping Meridian the number one place to live in America!" said Mayor Tammy.

City Council meetings are held every Tuesday at 6pm, except on the second Tuesday of each month when the meeting begins at 3pm. The City live streams every meeting on our YouTube page.

CONTACT YOUR CITY COUNCIL:

City_Council@meridiancity.org or 208-489-0529

www.meridiancity.org/city_council



Charlie Rountree
Outgoing Council President



David Zaremba
Outgoing Council Member



Keith Bird
City Council President



Joe Borton
City Council Vice President



Genesis Milam
Re-elected Council Member



Luke Cavener
City Council Member



Ty Palmer
Newly Elected Council Member



Anne Little Roberts
Newly Elected Council Member

COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Dawn Cronk, Blaine Johnston, Frank Thomason,
Robert Keith Mortensen, Josh Evarts, Joely Walters (Youth Rep)

IMPACT FEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

David Fulkerson, Gene Strate, Brad Pfannmuller, Matthew Adams,
John Nesmith, Spencer Martin, Seldon "Butch" Weedon

MERIDIAN ARTS COMMISSION

Michelle Glaze, Mary Jensen, Claudia Weathermon, Brian Schreiner,
Leslie Mauldin, Stephanie Barnes, Ellen DeAngelis, Gretchen
Caserotti, Cheyenne Quilter (Youth Rep)

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Phillip Liddell, Treg Bernt, John Nesmith, Creg Steele,
Sharon Borton, Jo D. Greer, Matthew Stoll, Craig Robinson,
Hannah Sturtevant (Youth Rep)

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Rhonda McCarvel, Ryan Fitzgerald, Steven Yearsley,
Gregory Wilson, Patrick Oliver

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

J. Scott Walters, Robert Corrie, Cheryl Caldwell, Steven Cory,
Nancy Mann, Jacob Chambers (Youth Rep)

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

David Ballard, Ryan Hall, Jack McGee, Bryan Leisle
Lance Baumgartner (Youth Rep), Stephen Lewis, Tracy Hopkins,
Darrel McRoberts, Ryan Lancaster



MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (MYAC) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Drake Heithoff, Brianna Siddoway, Hannah Sturtevant, Tanna
Krumm, John Gonzales, Susannah Bradford, Grant Moxley,
Jesse Smith, Ariel Tilden, Baylee Malm

MERIDIAN ANTI DRUG COALITION (MADC) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Cheryl Mulvihill, Bethany Gadzinski, Monte Stiles, Fred Kesler,
Janie Ramos, Nasdina Heithoff, Elisha Figueroa, Jason Christensen,
Nichole Herold, Jeanne Buschine, Scott Colaianni, Robyn Ure,
Larry Lim, Tanna Krumm (Youth Rep)

MAYOR'S SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD (MSAB)

Steve Joyal, Carolyn Sinnard, Merna Tarter, Larry Kelley,
Lynn Young, Frank Griffith, Bob Kellogg, Brent Jones, Julie Vogel,
Frank Marcos, James Lucker, Barbara Walsh

The City of Meridian Legal Department rewrote the ordinances that govern the City Commission protocols. This process was done in order to align the commissions with terms and members, making it more accessible to the public. If you are interested in joining a commission or committee, contact the Clerk's office at 888-4433. If you are interested in joining MYAC or MSAB, call the Mayor's office at 489-0529. To learn more about MADC, call 846-7313.

CITY DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BRUCE CHATTERTON

FINANCE
STACY KILCHENMANN

FIRE
CHIEF MARK NIEMEYER

HUMAN RESOURCES
CRYSTAL RITCHIE (*INTERIM*)

INFORMATION SERVICES
JAYCEE HOLMAN

CITY ATTORNEY
BILL NARY

PARKS AND RECREATION
STEVE SIDDOWAY

POLICE
CHIEF JEFF LAVEY

PUBLIC WORKS
TOM BARRY



Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in June 2015

S

TRATEGIC GROWTH

Good growth fuels a city. Meridian will promote growth that enhances its vision and is family focused, properly planned, financially viable, and diverse.

In 2015, City Departments accomplished many projects that will ensure City amenities and infrastructure continue to meet the needs of our residents in the future.

CRAFTED A MASTER PLAN FOR PARKS

The Meridian Parks and Recreation Department developed a Master Plan for the next ten years that will provide a framework for future projects. While creating the plan, the department gathered valuable public input utilizing a number of methods including: focus groups, citizen surveys, stakeholder meetings, and an interactive online opinion-sharing site. The master plan includes concepts for several future parks, such as the Borup property at Cherry Lane and McDermott Road, 77 acres in South Meridian, and the future Margaret Aldape Park along the Boise River.

EXTENDED PATHWAYS

While planning for the future, the Parks and Recreation Department also focused on expanding the pathways system. Work to extend the portion of the Five Mile Creek Pathway segment that will run between Badley and Fairview Avenues continued this year. Opportunities are also being evaluated for full implementation of the Five Mile Creek Pathway from Interstate 84 to the Canyon County line. Pathways and trails, and the connectivity they provide, continue to be a top

priority for Meridian residents and a focus for the Parks Department.

IMPROVED WATER DELIVERY

From recreation to infrastructure, the Public Works Department continues to make improvements to accommodate future growth. In South Meridian, a project the department completed, called the Locust Grove, Blackrock to Reflection Ridge Water Main Extension, connected two pressure zones. This improved control of water pressure, fire flow and water quality to residents in the area. Also, a new ground water reservoir was completed in South Meridian, nearly doubling the City's storage capacity. It was needed in order to fulfill the growing demands on the system, as well as provide necessary emergency water reserves and fire flows for the southern portion of our community.

RECYCLED WATER

This past year, the reclaimed water program was once again successful in providing 69 million gallons of water to businesses and parks systems utilizing the water. That's equivalent to 105 Olympic-sized pools! Since so many parks are part of the program, Public Works crews educated the city's Parks and Recreation staff on the program. This enabled them to better operate and make system improvements,

including better control and filter assemblies to improve water quality to customers. The program also grew, including one new account, Walmart, which was added on the north side of the system.

THE RECLAIMED WATER PROGRAM PROVIDED

69 MILLION GALLONS OF RECYCLED WATER TO PARTICIPATING SYSTEMS

EXPANDED INFRASTRUCTURE

It was an exciting year of expansion at the Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF). Construction was completed on several buildings in an effort to accommodate the City's growth and respond to increased regulatory requirements by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This included a new Administration building, an expanded laboratory, a maintenance facility, and a remodeled operations building. These updates help meet the need for growth space, allow the Department to

accommodate increased lab analyses, and provide the space required to safely maintain and repair critical equipment. Staff can now complete repairs more efficiently, resulting in a reduction in equipment downtime, an increase in staff productivity, and decrease outsourcing. Additionally, the Department is planning for upgrades and expansion that will almost double the facility's treatment capacity, enabling it to process 15 million gallons of wastewater per day!

PLANNED FOR FUTURE PERMIT

Part of growing strategically means planning for future regulation changes. Since the EPA last issued the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to the City in 1999, pollution regulatory requirements for wastewater treatment have changed significantly. In order to meet new guidelines, the Public Works Department has been planning and working with multiple departments and third parties to develop a strategy to receive the updated permit. Though initial estimates were upwards of \$230 million to complete the work needed to meet the guidelines, by narrowing the scope and financing strategies, the cost estimate has been reduced to \$179 million.

STRATEGIC GROWTH BY THE NUMBERS

INFRASTRUCTURE

439 Miles of Sewer Line
(410 in 2014)

516 Miles of Water Line
(496 in 2014)

23 Active Wells
(19 in 2014)

4.5 Million Gallons of Water Storage
(4.5 million in 2014)

69.6 Million Gallons/Day Pumping Capacity
(69 million/day in 2014)

5,000+ Streetlights
(3,800 in 2014)

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

255 Acres of Developed Park Land
(240 in 2014)

132 Acres of Undeveloped Park Land
(141 in 2014)

14.8 Miles of Pathways
(14.8 in 2014)

4,000 Trees in Urban Forest System
(3,000 in 2014)





ECONOMIC VIBRANCY

Jobs make a City vibrant. Meridian will recruit family-wage jobs and promote the growth of existing organizations in employment zones that put work and life together.

The City of Meridian remains one of the premier places to live, thanks in large part to our economy. We are a community that is built for business and designed for living. It's not just a slogan, it's a promise we work diligently to keep. Part of this includes planning for business, supporting companies that are here and creating infrastructure to sustain economic growth.

IDENTIFIED OPPORTUNITIES IN DOWNTOWN

Planning is a key component in keeping an economy vibrant. This year the Community Development Department participated in "Placemaking" Workshops. Project for Public Spaces, with support from Idaho Smart Growth, conducted a two-day, place-based, community-driven workshop in downtown Meridian to identify "Placemaking" opportunities using "Lighter Quicker Cheaper" (LQC) strategies. The Strategy of LQC is a lower risk and lower cost development tactic that has produced some of the world's most successful public spaces such as Bryant Park in New York City. It capitalizes on the creative energy of the community to efficiently generate new uses and revenue for places in transition. The "Placemaking" initiative is designed to create a game plan to focus on a central shared vision for what Downtown Meridian could become. At the end of the process, the City walked away with a vision plan containing

short and long-term ideas to make downtown a more livable and vibrant community space. The first area of focus is City Hall Plaza and the block of Idaho Avenue, between Main and Second Streets. Stay tuned for more updates in 2016!

WELCOMED THE NEW VENTURES LAB

Revitalizing Downtown Meridian is a major focus for the City. One of the initiatives in the overall economic development plan, came to fruition this year. A collaborative working space in the heart of Downtown Meridian is officially open for business! The New Ventures Lab offers flexible work space for Meridian entrepreneurs to grow ideas while connecting them with the people and resources that can help turn their ideas into businesses.

Since opening in May of 2015, the lab has become home to seven companies with 33 employees, five members (companies in the making) in the co-working space, and it has served as the location for more than 30 events including the first ever Startup Weekend in Meridian. In 2016 the lab plans to welcome six new businesses and more open space members; hold two additional Startup Weekend events; and continue to grow partnerships with support organizations such as Kickstand, Startup Grind, the Meridian Chamber, the Meridian Library District, West Ada School District and more.

COMPLETED INTERCHANGE PROJECTS

It's a project many residents and drivers were eager to see complete; the Meridian Road Interchange Rebuild! After nearly two years, the project wrapped up in 2015. The interchange was first constructed in 1965 when approximately 10,650 vehicles used it per day. Now 128,000 vehicles utilize the interchange each day. The new one was built to handle 284,000 per day with the goals of reducing congestion, enhancing safety and making way for a fourth lane on Interstate 84.

The City of Meridian focused on the safety of the overpass for bikers and pedestrians by adding bike lanes and sidewalks. The City also made it a welcoming site into the community with the addition of art on the overpass and landscaping. The



Meridian Interchange Project cost \$31 million and will have significant, positive impacts at the local, regional, national, and international levels. Regional and national benefits accrue directly from increased highway freight movement through the valley. It's estimated that 732 jobs will be created and/or preserved as a result of the project.

ECONOMIC VIBRANCY BY THE NUMBERS

37,696 JOBS

49 NEW BUSINESS RIBBON CUTTINGS

1,044 NEW JOBS FROM 2014 TO 2015

22 Minute AVERAGE COMMUTE

323 ADDITIONAL JOBS IN PROFESSIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INDUSTRIES

94.9% HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR HIGHER

3.5% INCREASE IN INDIVIDUAL WAGE

33.3% BACHELORS DEGREE OR HIGHER

3.3% UNEMPLOYMENT

\$63,225 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

75 NEW COMMERCIAL/SHELL BUILDINGS

\$186,400 MEDIAN HOME VALUE

\$105.2 Million NEW COMMERCIAL VALUE
(32% increase in value over 2014)

75% HOMEOWNERSHIP RATE

\$298.2 Million NEW RESIDENTIAL VALUE

TOP EMPLOYERS IN MERIDIAN

West Ada School District * St. Luke's * CITI
Blue Cross of Idaho * Scentsy * Power Engineers
T-Mobile * Western States Equipment * Ameriben
Food Services of America



R RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT

The successful government of the 21st century is service driven, approachable, and responsive. Meridian will embody those qualities by improving efficiency, enhancing transparency, utilizing technology, and investing in our employees.

The City of Meridian takes pride in being a responsive government to our residents, and businesses. In 2015, we implemented many ways to increase our responsiveness.

ENHANCED PARTNERSHIPS

The Meridian Fire Department continues to find new opportunities to lead in the area of partnerships and collaboration. The Ada County Emergency Management System Joint Powers Agreement has been in place for 2 years, and is now entering the next exciting phase. A collective “system” budget is being developed, which will result in the sharing of costs for EMS system needs. This new venture will have a significant impact in keeping operational costs contained for each agency participating by sharing, and not duplicating, personnel and operational needs.

DEVELOPED GUIDELINES

The Meridian Fire Department’s focus on collaboration also includes working with other agencies to develop the best response to area schools. The department participated in the development of the West Ada Emergency Response Guidelines. This document standardized fire ground operations for all the agencies that participated. In addition, departments in Canyon County are now in the process of reviewing the guidelines for potential adoption. This in turn would standardize operations across the entire valley.

EXPANDED RESPONSE AND REPAIR ABILITIES

The Meridian Public Works Department purchased new equipment and tools and held training sessions to expand its ability to respond to and repair or replace underground water line infrastructure. To date, the efforts have paid off – the Department was able to handle six major main line repairs in house with a savings of approximately \$45,000. This program expansion reduces service interruption times and improves reliability.

IMPROVED DATA ENTRY SYSTEM

As we review our processes, we are always looking for ways to do things more efficiently. The City of Meridian’s Information Technology team finalized a huge project with Accela, the vendor the City uses for data collection and storage. The IT team’s reconfiguration project created multiple efficiencies within the system, making data entry easier. This was done all in house, saving the City \$150,000 to \$300,000, not to mention hours spent on data entry.

**SAVING THE CITY
\$150,000 TO \$300,000,
NOT TO MENTION HOURS SPENT ON
DATA ENTRY**

STREAMLINED PROCESSES

We're also making it even easier to do business in Meridian. The Community Development Department streamlined many processes by making more services and documents available online. The Building Division now reviews plans and accepts submittals electronically. Land Development also transitioned into more electronic review and record keeping in order to begin eliminating paper storage. This "electronic movement" has saved the department in printing costs and it saves time for applicants.

The City Clerk's office implemented a change in licensing to cut costs and increase efficiency, which resulted in a 66 percent time savings in submitting and processing alcohol license applications. The City no longer issues beer, wine, or liquor licenses, but rather one single alcohol license.

66%
**TIME SAVINGS IN
SUBMITTING AND
PROCESSING ALCOHOL
LICENSE APPLICATIONS**

UPDATED PUBLIC RECORDS MANAGEMENT PROCESS

The management of public records is a key component in being responsive to our community. That's why this year the City Legal Department revised the City's public records management and retention program, in order to provide better management and access to public information.

INCREASED COMMUNICATION

Accessing information on the City's website is now easier. 2015 marked the completion of the City's website re-design effort. The site is now more user and mobile friendly. The Utility Bill Pay link remains easily accessible, right on the homepage. We've also made it easy to access the most visited pages and the city council live stream on Tuesdays, all from the homepage. We invite you to take a tour, and be sure to visit the Community Calendar, where you can add your organization's events.

From a new, more user-friendly website to an increased presence on social media, we are always looking for even more ways to communicate with residents. In combination with our e-newsletter that is distributed every two weeks, we launched a quarterly newsletter to be included with utility

bills. One of the things we learned from the 2014 Citizen Survey is that our population is diverse and receives information in many different ways. That's why we want to send out our City updates to you through a variety of avenues! We also launched a "Welcome to Meridian" program designed to educate new residents about the services available to them when they move to our community

CREATED MSAB

Connecting with residents of all ages is important. That's why Mayor Tammy formed the Mayor's Senior Advisory Board, or MSAB, with the goal of enhancing the lives of Meridian's senior community. The fourteen person board, representing Meridian residents ages 50 and older, hit the ground running and made an immediate impact. The group kicked off the year by providing a unique perspective to the Parks and Recreation Department's master plan. The board also hosted a "Keys to Safe Driving" event to teach tactics for safer driving specific to Meridian, with the added benefit of helping lower seniors' car insurance rates. Next up, they are eager to get to work on a senior resource guide for Meridian residents.

RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT BY THE NUMBERS



1,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED PUBLIC WORKS
WEEK AND DONATED **277+** POUNDS OF FOOD
FOR THE MERIDIAN FOOD BANK.

374 City of Meridian Employees

91.4% City Employee Retention Rate

877 Volunteers Donated **18,714** Hours
to the City of Meridian

125 Students in MYAC (largest to date)

198 Public Records Requests

1,390 Passports Issued

657 Licenses/Permits Issued

23,596 Calls to City Clerk's Office



Keith Bird, Genesis Milam, Fire Chief Mark Niemeyer, Mayor Tammy, David Zaremba and Charlie Rountree at the unveiling of the Fire Department's new engine in Nov. 2015.

S

AFE, HEALTHY AND SECURE

For a community to prosper, it must be safe, secure, and healthy. Meridian will invest in activities and services that enhance public safety and community health to build a stronger community and promote the quality of life that its citizens and employees expect.

We work hard to anticipate the needs of our growing community and remain among the safest communities in Idaho.

DEPLOYED BODY-WORN CAMERAS

The Meridian Police Department continues to look for more ways to keep our community one of the safest. This year the department joined other law enforcement agencies across the nation by deploying 75 body-worn cameras on all of its uniformed patrol officers. The department spent 18 months researching best practices that included cost containment, storage and the security of the videos. A collaborative stakeholder outreach plan helped get the camera program up and running from the public safety community to City departments.



The City's Information Technology Department created a plan for storage and encryption of the footage and the City's Legal Department crafted a body-worn camera policy. It's a program the City was eager to launch because it supports the focus on public safety, accountability and transparency, while keeping costs in check.

OPENED PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER

The Police Department also oversaw the completion of the City's Public Safety Training Center. It is the first of its kind to be built in the valley, giving public safety agencies across the area the ability to train locally instead of out of state. The training center features four classrooms, a defensive tactics mat room, simulators to create real situations, a K-9 agility course and it houses the City's mobile command post. It's also used as a training location for Meridian Fire crews.

IMPLEMENTED HEARTSAFE MERIDIAN

The City of Meridian is doing its part to help combat the number one cause of death for both men and women in the United States- heart disease. The City has implemented HeartSafe community initiatives including the addition of 39 Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's) to help keep the public safe. The HeartSafe Meridian program is a long term

plan to increase the public's awareness of sudden cardiac arrest and promote early access to EMS, CPR and early defibrillation.

ADDITIONAL AED'S:

12 IN PATROL CARS,
13 ADDED TO FIRE FLEET,
14 THROUGHOUT
6 MERIDIAN PARKS FOR
CITIZEN USE

UTILIZED BIKE MEDICS

AED's are also part of the City's new bike medic program. The Meridian Fire Department received a grant from Firehouse Subs to launch the program, which is a first for the state. It was developed to initiate quicker response during planned events throughout the City. Bikes are staffed by a Paramedic, and equipped with an AED and other necessary medical equipment. The medics work hand-in-hand with the Meridian Police Department's bike team.

LAUNCHED DO THE RIGHT



We're not only watching out for your safety, but also your health and security, by encouraging our residents to be kind and compassionate to one another. That's why the City of Meridian, with the help of many partners, launched DO THE RIGHT on April 8, 2015. The goal of the day was to encourage people of all ages to do something nice for the person on their right. This one day to start a movement of compassion was so well received by the community that we intend to make it an annual event – one that will hopefully grow beyond Meridian! So mark your calendars for

April 8, 2016 and #DoTheRight!
**FORMED MAYOR TAMMY'S
WALKING CLUB**

Area students were great supporters of Do The Right, and they also helped make another inaugural event hugely successful this year- Mayor Tammy's Walking Club. The club was established by Mayor Tammy to encourage and challenge all elementary students in Meridian to walk for better health. The club promotes healthy and active habits at a young age that will hopefully be carried on into adulthood.



MAYOR TAMMY'S WALKING CLUB

12 SCHOOLS,
6,900 STUDENTS
WALKED A COMBINED
83,161 MILES

IMPROVED WATER QUALITY

This year marked a huge advance in a proactive attempt to improve the City of Meridian's water quality. The Public Works Department's Engineering Division completed several projects, including abandoning three aging wells, to protect groundwater from future contamination. The Department's Water Division implemented new water treatment technologies at three locations, including the City's first iron and manganese treatment facility. These sites will improve water quality by reducing minerals before they enter the distribution system. The presence of iron and manganese in the water system are the main contributors to discolored or "brown water" occurrences. The City's first project of this kind will serve as a pilot for future projects.

SAFE, HEALTHY & SECURE BY THE NUMBERS

29 Alive at 25 classes held,
educating 650 youth drivers

27 NEW Neighborhood Watch
Groups

2,980 pounds of
prescription drugs collected,
keeping drugs out of the city
water system. Meridian Police
took in more than any other site
in the state!

200+ parents attended MADC
Reality Party for Parents

1,004 people trained in one
day by the MYAC in Hands- Only
CPR at Dutch Bros. (most in the
Treasure Valley)

1,172 people attended
Meridian Fire Hands-Only CPR
Classes

344 Car Seats Inspected

POLICE

Police Officers: 97
Calls for Service:
51,570

Response Time:
Average 3 minutes 52 seconds
Arrests Charges: 1,510



FIRE

Firefighters: 60
Fire Stations: 5
Calls for Service:
6,511

Response Time:
Average 5 minutes 36 Seconds





A

ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION

A premier community embraces cultural diversity and promotes an abundant offering of arts, entertainment, and recreational opportunities. Meridian will invest in services, facilities, programs, and partnerships to establish itself as an active and vibrant community that fulfills the diverse cultural and recreational needs of its people.

When we say we are a community that is built for business and designed for living, we take both of those concepts very seriously. Arts, culture and recreation play an integral role in the living experience in any community and each year we look for ways to enrich these aspects of Meridian.

HELD YOUTH FARMERS MARKET PREVIEW EVENT

In 2015 the City of Meridian and Epoque Events launched the first ever Youth Farmers Market in Downtown Meridian. The Preview Party in September gave the community a chance to see what will become a weekly event in Summer 2016.



“Our community has been asking for a Farmers Market in our Downtown for some time, but we wanted it to be unique. With this focus on youth, we’re giving kids an opportunity to learn and profit from their hobbies and projects, but most importantly their passions,” said Mayor Tammy.

Nearly a dozen youth vendors were on hand selling fresh fruits, vegetables, berries, melons, flowers, eggs, meats, baked goods and handmade crafts. The event also featured live music by youth rock band Future Image. It was funded by a Blue Cross High Five Children’s Collaborative Grant, the Meridian Development Corporation and the Boise Co-op.

OPENED STOREY BARK PARK

It was an exciting year for dog lovers in Meridian! Storey Bark Park, Meridian’s first dedicated dog park, celebrated its grand opening with a large leash-cutting celebration on August 12, 2015. The fully fenced dog park features a safe leashing/unleashing area, separate large and small dog areas, shade shelters, a restroom building, people and doggy drinking fountains, paved walkways, a variety of ground coverings, benches, landscaping, a new paved parking area, dog-themed street signs, and a pair of fire hydrants.



Both the small and large dog areas feature a number of agility items donated to the dog park by Intermountain Pet Hospital & Lodge. On Halloween, the park hosted the Howl-O-Woof Pooch Parade & Costume Contest, attended by more than 75 costumed dogs and their owners. Since its opening, the dog park's popularity has continued to grow.

ADDED MORE COMMUNITY ART

Many new art pieces were added throughout the city this past year, thanks to community partners. In Kleiner Park a new statue of Gene Kleiner's grandson, Ben, was built next to the playground (pictured below). Along the streets, eight traffic boxes were wrapped with artwork created by local students, including the one pictured opposite page, that is located on Main Street.



COMPLETED TENNIS COMPLEX

The Meridian Parks and Recreation Department celebrated the opening of the new Settlers Park Tennis Court Complex this year, adding to the many opportunities for outdoor recreation in Meridian. The new outdoor complex, located just west of the Ustick and Meridian Roads intersection, now features seven full-sized tennis courts (two pre-existing and five newly constructed), including a championship level court with bleachers, a grass seating area, and larger run-out areas. Three smaller courts designed for players under the age of 10, can double as pickle-ball courts. The complex also includes a new concrete hitting wall, a picnic shelter for tournament headquarters, and 36 additional parking spots.



RESURFACED ADVENTURE ISLAND PLAYGROUND

The Park's department completed another big project at Settlers Park—the resurfacing of the Adventure Island Playground. The popular playground was the first universally accessible one in the State of Idaho and continues to be a destination park for families throughout the Valley.



ARTS, CULTURE & RECREATION BY THE NUMBERS

10

Major Parks and Recreation Community Events

1,290

Shelter/Plaza Reservations

5,111 Players on **531** Teams in Sports Leagues

62

Artists Featured in the Initial Point Gallery (3rd Floor, City Hall)

12

Historic Walking Tour Markers installed in Downtown Meridian

Mayor's Book Club:

8

Books

1,504

Pages Read With

80

3rd—5th Graders Along With Mayor Tammy And

8

Local CEO's

CITY ACCOLADES

COMMUNITY AWARDS

FOOD SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE
ED'S 50'S CAFÉ
FIVE GUYS BURGER AND FRIES
THE CLUB AT SPURWING

LEGACY AWARD
ORVILLE AND HEIDI THOMPSON,
SCENTSY OWNERS



NEIGHBORHOOD STARS
MARK MAXFIELD
DIANE WILTON
BECKY FREELAND
LIZ BOONE
CELESTE SMITH
RONNIE MASSEY
LEE AND HOOTY HOLMES
DAVID CRANDALL
BOB OLMO
BARBARA RHODE
CAPITAL ED CREDIT UNION

9 9th Fastest Growing
Large City in the U.S.
U.S. Census Bureau Report



City Attorney,
**Bill Nary, Recognized
as Leader in Law**
Idaho Business Review

Mayor Tammy:
Youth Advocate of the Year
American Heart and Stroke Associations

Community Champion
Molina Healthcare

**First Inductee in the
Leadership Hall of Fame**
Meridian Chamber

2 Treasure Valley Ranked 2nd Best
Place to Live Post Graduation
ZipRecruiter

**Passport System Receives
Superior Rating**

City's best practices acknowledged in regional newsletter





#1 Place to Live in America

- 24/7 Wall St.

Meridian was named America's best place to live by 24/7 Wall Street, an online financial news commentary and USA TODAY content partner. Factors in the report included crime rates, employment growth, education levels and access to entertainment and recreation.

The article in USA Today said the low violent crime rates and safety of the city was one factor, along with education levels and access to entertainment and recreation. Another reason: employment growth.

“Moreover, jobs are being added to the local economy faster than in most of the United States. The 7.4 percent increase in the number of jobs from 2012 through 2014 was much greater than the national job growth rate of 1.8 percent over that period. Prospective employment is frequently the first priority for Americans considering relocation. With the strong job market, Meridian's

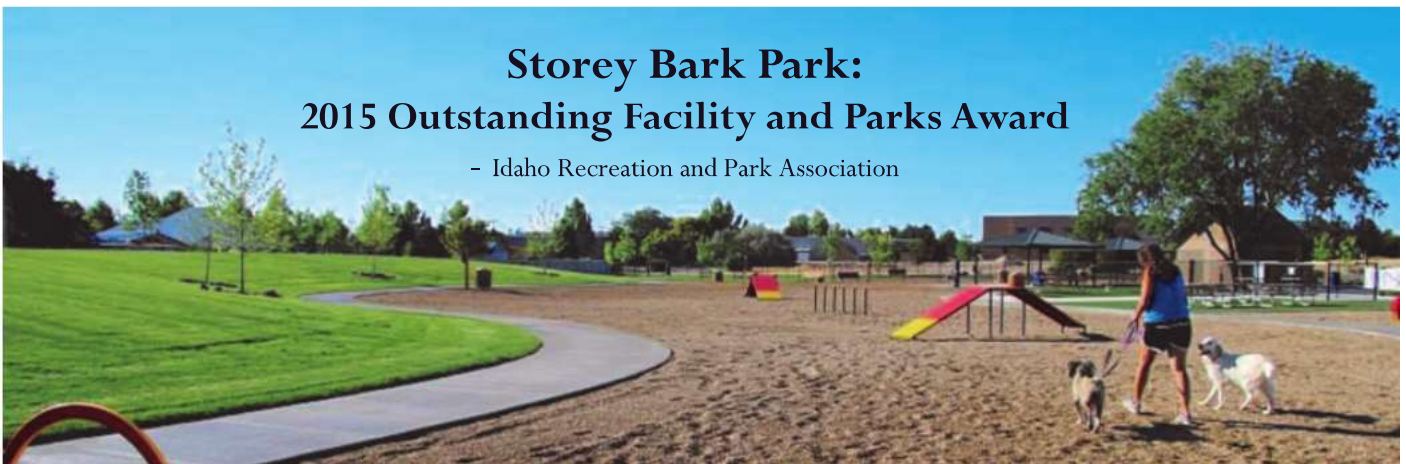
population has been growing dramatically in recent years. Over the five years through 2014, the city's population growth rate of 28 percent was more than four times the nationwide population growth of 6.5 percent.” (as written in USA TODAY)

THE 7.4% INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF JOBS FROM 2012—2014 WAS MUCH GREATER THAN THE NATIONAL JOB GROWTH RATE OF 1.8%
-24/7 WALL ST.

Meridian was chosen out of 550 other U.S. cities with populations of 65,000 or more.

Storey Bark Park: 2015 Outstanding Facility and Parks Award

- Idaho Recreation and Park Association



BUDGET BREAKDOWN

The City of Meridian takes its fiduciary responsibilities seriously. Our financial mission is to achieve community goals within a framework that is not only fiscally sustainable now, but also in the future. This requires a conservative approach to budgeting revenues; long range financial planning and economic forecasting; saving for large capital projects; and collaboration between all of the City's departments. The City has two major fund types; the General Operation Fund and the Enterprise Fund.

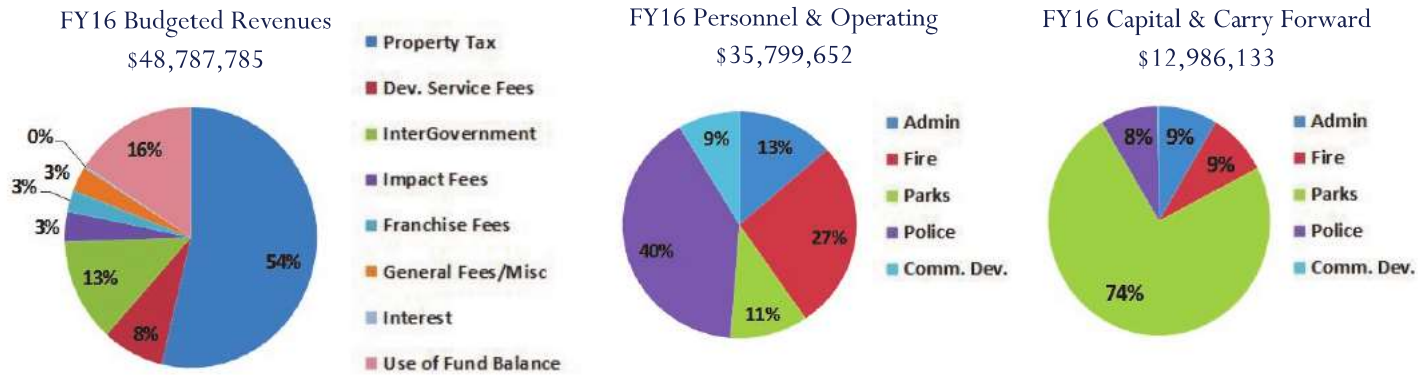
The **General Operating Fund**, derives 54% of its income from property tax and pays for the basic City services: Community Planning and Development, Parks and Recreation, Fire, Police, and Administration. The rest comes from business, development and other fees.

The **Enterprise Fund** is a business fund that provides water and sewer service to Meridian residents and businesses.

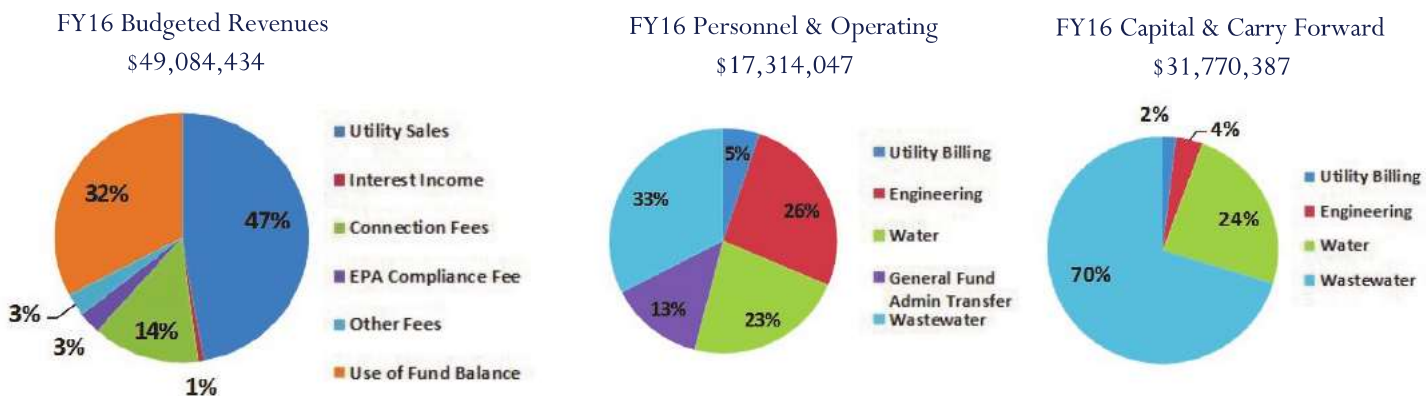
Similar to a business, this fund is financed completely with user fees. There are two principal types of fees; user fees, which are charged based on each customer's system usage, and connection fees, which are paid when a new structure "connects" to the utility system. The Enterprise Fund completes very large infrastructure projects with periods of construction that can span several years.

The graphs show the City's original fiscal year 2016 budgeted expenses and revenues. Personnel and Operating are the on-going costs for each fund. Capital is a one-time cost for construction projects, or purchases of equipment. Carry Forward means that projects previously budgeted for, have not been completed so are re-appropriated for another year. For example the construction of a park may take several years. On the revenue side, the category "Use of Fund Balance" includes two items; re-budgeted funds for a large project that was not completed in the prior year, or money the City is saving for a particular project.

GENERAL FUND



ENTERPRISE FUND



CONNECT WITH US



COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR

CITY CONTACTS

In Case of Emergency	Dial 9-1-1
Meridian City Hall	(208) 888-4433
City Attorney	(208) 898-5506
City Clerk	(208) 888-4433
Community Development	(208) 884-5533
Finance/Accounting	(208) 888-4433
Fire (Non-Emergency)	(208) 888-1234
Human Resources	(208) 898-5503
Information Technology	(208) 888-4433
Mayor and City Council	(208) 489-0529
Parks and Recreation	(208) 888-3579
Police (Non-Emergency)	(208) 888-6678
Public Works	(208) 898-5500
Utility Billing	(208) 888-4439



WWW.MERIDIANCITY.ORG

SOCIAL MEDIA

Meridian City Hall on Facebook
City of Meridian on YouTube, LinkedIn
@MeridianIdaho on Twitter.

NEXTDOOR

Connect with your neighborhood and
with the City of Meridian!

COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR

Join us at these quarterly events!

CITY SPEAKER

Invite someone from the City to speak
to your homeowner's association,
business, club, church or school group.

TOWN HALLS and CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

See municipal government in process.
We also live stream these events on our
website.

NEWSLETTERS

Make sure you have subscribed to our e-
newsletter by visiting our website. Also
look for quarterly inserts with City news
updates in your Utility Bills every
January, April, July and October.

THIS WEEK IN MERIDIAN

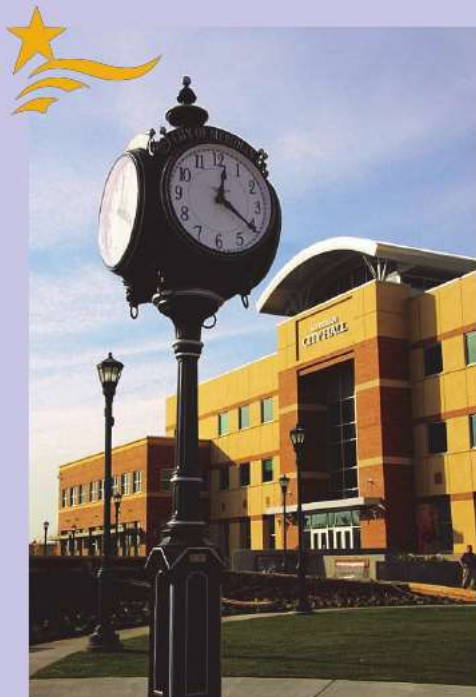
Check out our weekly updates on the
Meridian City Hall YouTube page and
on our website.

CITY OF MERIDIAN WEBSITE

The City of Meridian's website is your
one stop shop for all updates,
contacts, calendar events, and City
news.

2016 CITY CALENDAR

FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION:
WWW.MERIDIANCITY.ORG



City Council Meetings:

Held every Tuesday at 6pm
Second Tuesday of the month is a
Workshop Meeting at 3pm instead of 6pm.
If there is a fifth Tuesday in a month,
meetings are scheduled as needed.

Annual Report
City of Meridian
33 E. Broadway Avenue
Meridian, ID 83642
(208) 888-4433

Editor: Kaycee Emery
Primary Photographers:
Shelly Houston, Ken Corder, Kaycee Emery

FEBRUARY

**AARP Free
Tax Prep For Seniors**
Feb. 2 - April 12
(Tues, Wed, Thurs)
10am-2pm
Meridian City Hall

**HOLIDAY -
City Hall Closed**
Feb. 15, President's Day

Ignite Youth
Feb. 22, 6pm
Idaho Party Barn

Early Voting
Feb. 22 - Mar. 4
M-F, 8am - 5pm
Meridian City Hall

**MARCH
Meridian Firefighters
Pipes & Drums
Chili Cook-Off**
Mar. 5, 11am - 3pm
Meridian Dairy Barn

Coffee with the Mayor
Mar. 15, 8am
Kendall Ford

**APRIL
Do The Right Day**
April 8

**Unplug and Be
Outside Week**
April 25-30

Town Hall
April 27, 6:30-8pm
Ambrose School

**MAY
Ball at the Hall**
May 14, 7pm - 11pm
Meridian City Hall

**HOLIDAY -
City Hall Closed**
May 30, Memorial Day

Memorial Day Ceremony
May 30, 11am
Rock of Honor in
Kleiner Park

**JUNE
CableONE Movie Night**
June 3 - Aug. 26, Fridays
Settlers Park

Public Works Week
June 6-11

Gene Kleiner Day
June 11
Kleiner Park

Coffee with the Mayor
June 14, 8am
New Ventures Lab

Kleiner Park LIVE
June 16 - July 28,
Thurs Evenings
Kleiner Park

Meridian Dairy Days
June 22 - 25

Youth Farmers Market
June 25 - Sept. 24,
Saturdays, 9am - Noon
Meridian City Hall Plaza

**JULY
HOLIDAY -
City Hall Closed**
July 4, Independence Day

**Independence Day
Celebration/Fireworks**
July 4
Storey Park and
Meridian Speedway

**AUGUST
National Night Out**
Aug. 2

Concerts on Broadway
Aug. 13 and 27, 6:30pm
Meridian City Hall Plaza

Barn Sour Fun Run
Aug. 20, 8am
Settlers Park

**SEPTEMBER
HOLIDAY -
City Hall Closed**
Sept. 5, Labor Day

Coffee with the Mayor
Sept. 13, 8am
Location TBD

**OCTOBER
Trunk or Treat**
Oct. 27
Meridian City Hall

**NOVEMBER
HOLIDAY -
City Hall Closed**
Nov. 11, Veterans Day

Veterans Day Ceremony
Nov. 11, 11am
Rock of Honor in
Kleiner Park

**HOLIDAY -
City Hall Closed**
Nov. 24 - 25, Thanksgiving

**DECEMBER
Christmas In Meridian**
Nov. 28 - Dec. 19

**Winter Lights Parade
Tree Lighting**
Dec. 2, 6:30pm
Downtown Meridian

Children's Festival
Dec. 3, 10am - 3pm
Location TBD

Coffee with the Mayor
Dec. 13, 8am
Location TBD

**HOLIDAY -
City Hall Closed**
Dec. 26, Christmas